

CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**

DATE: 6/25/2021
DOCKET #:

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Heather Damitio Howell
Office: Council Member, District 5, Town of Amite City
Parish: TANGIPAHOA
Election Date: 11/3/2020
Level of Office: Any

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: 10-G
Original Due Date: 11/25/2020
Date Filed: 4/12/2021
Activity Receipts: \$0
Expenditures: \$0
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$0

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$1000
Days Late: 138
Late Fee Order Received: 3/22/2021
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 4/12/2021
Waiver Request Received: 3/31/2021
Additional Information Requested:

- Medical
- Financial
- Other

COMMENTS: Candidate submitted waiver request by fax and states that she has never done anything remotely this difficult in her life and she seriously doubts she will ever do it again. She said between herself being quarantined and her children being quarantined and her father having dementia it was a very difficult 4 months. She said she also had car trouble and contracted strep throat due to the stress. She only had one contribution of \$500 which she spent on signs. She said she sent in the reports that she thought was due but missed the 10-g report. She said she moved the Friday after the campaign so she did not receive the delinquency notices.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No
Other Outstanding Late Fees: YES
Prior Late Fees: YES
Reassessed Late Fees: No

Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
Prior Late Fees: No

Melissa Horn

From: heather howell <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 2:43 PM
To: Melissa Horn
Subject: Heather howell city council

10-P

Categories: Waiver/Reconsideration

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Please except this letter as my formal request for a waiver of my late fee. For the November 3, 2020 election I ran for Amite city Council position. First let me say I have never done anything remotely this difficult in my life and I seriously doubt I ever will again. Between myself getting quarantined and my children being quarantine with 3 separate events and my father having dementia it was a very difficult four months. I also told of my car and ended up with strep throat during the campaign from all the stress.

If you look at my reports that I sent and I was only given one donation of \$500 I gave that donation for Signs and only had five dollars left over in my campaign account. I sent in the reports that I thought were due but at now see that I am missing the some thing P report 10 P report. Please except this letter as my apology and request for waiver for anything that I may have forgotten to do or did not turn in. I also moved the Friday after the campaign so I did not receive any other letters requesting information. My new address is 61325 S. Big Creek Rd., Amite, LA. If there is anything else that is needed please contact me through that address or by my cell phone 985-687-7325.

4/1/2021

Gmail - Fw: Candidate report for heather damitio howell



heather howell <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

Fw: Candidate report for heather damitio howell

2 messages

heather damitio <hdamitio@yahoo.com>

To: "Heather (tangi Fair) Damitio-Howell" <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 31, 2021 at 4:36 PM

RE: Heather Damitio Howell

Louisiana Board of Ethics:

Please accept this letter as my formal request for a waiver of my late fee. For the November 3, 2020 election I ran for a amite city council position. First let me say I have never done anything remotely this difficult in my life. Between myself getting quarantined and my children being quarantined with 3 separate events I was beyond busy. I also fell down while out campaigning and messed up my left knee. I pretty much withdrew in October. If you look at my reports I sent in, I had no money. I had one contribution and I spent all of that on signs. The last report I sent in showed I used the 5\$ left on a face mask from tangi graphics. I started my campaign out with an accident where I totaled my car and ended my campaign with strep throat. I promised my husband that if/when I lost we could move to some land he had outside of town. Election was on Tuesday, the land was cleared by Friday and two weeks later we moved to the country. I only recently put in a change of address form. I'm attaching all the reports Michelle from the ethics office told me to send in and I did not get any notification of anything missing. I'm really sorry if I missed something but I have no money to pay a fine so please accept this letter to waive the fee.

I'm including the reports I sent in. I called and spoke to Michelle many times because I did not know what I needed to do and I didn't want to mess up. Obviously I messed something up. My new address is 61325 s big creek rd. Amite. If anything else is required please send notification to my new address.

Sincerely,

Begin forwarded message:

On Friday, October 30, 2020, 12:44 PM, heather damitio <hdamitio@yahoo.com> wrote:

Candidate for district 5 city Council Amite Louisiana

Thank you,
Heather Howell
985-687-7325

[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=81e732407a&view=pt&search=all&simi=thread-f%3A1695784997812980268&siml=msg-f%3A1695784997812980268](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=81e732407a&view=pt&search=all&simi=thread-f%3A1695784997812980268&siml=msg-f%3A1695784997812980268&siml=msg-f%3A1695784997812980268) 1/4

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
acting in its capacity as the
SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In Re: Heather Damitio Howell / November 3, 2020 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Heather Damitio Howell, in her capacity as a candidate for Council Member, District 5, Town of Amite City in the November 3, 2020 election was an any level candidate and required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

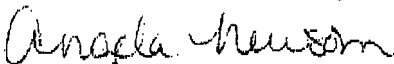
WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(5), Heather Damitio Howell was required to file a 10th Day Prior to General Report (10-G) by November 25, 2020. To date, the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report has not been filed, which automatically imposes the maximum penalty to be assessed for each report that is delinquent.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(iii) provides that an automatic late fee of \$40 per day (not to exceed \$1,000) be assessed against Heather Damitio Howell for each day the report is not timely filed.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$1,000 is assessed against Heather Damitio Howell for failure to timely file the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Heather Damitio Howell file a 10-G campaign finance disclosure report for the November 3, 2020 election, within 20 days of receipt of this order.

ORDER signed on the 1st day of March 2021 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Angela Newsum, Director
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division

ACTIVITY REPORT

TIME : 04/03/2021 18:00
 NAME :
 FAX :
 TEL :
 SER.# : BROM0J237261

NO.	DATE	TIME	FAX NO./NAME	DURATION	PAGE(S)	RESULT	COMMENT
#401	10/16	16:56	12252195500				
#402	10/16	17:01	12253817271	00	00	BUSY	TX
#404	10/16	17:08	12253817271	00	00	BUSY	TX
#405	10/16	17:04	12253817271	00	00	BUSY	TX
#406	11/17	13:19	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#407	11/17	13:46	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#408	11/17	15:29	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#409	11/17	15:37	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#410	11/20	15:50	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#411	12/02	19:10	19857487778	00	00	BUSY	TX
#414	12/11	10:42	18883130299	00	00	BUSY	TX
#415	12/11	12:27	18883030299	00	00	BUSY	TX
#416	12/11	12:30	18883130299	00	00	BUSY	TX
#417	12/11	12:34	18883030299	00	00	BUSY	TX
#418	12/28	12:43	18883030299	00	00	BUSY	TX
#419	01/05	11:10	18448439770	00	00	BUSY	TX
#420	01/09	11:29	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#421	03/01	18:28	18883030299	00	00	BUSY	TX
#423	03/03	15:23	9856293020	00	00	BUSY	TX
#424	03/05	11:57	19853480549	00	00	BUSY	TX

BUSY: BUSY/NO RESPONSE
 NG : POOR LINE CONDITION / OUT OF MEMORY
 CV : COVERPAGE
 POL : POLLING
 RET : RETRIEVAL

Heather Damitio Howell
63125 Big Creek Road
Amite, LA 70422

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

Deliver to: LA Board of Ethics

Fax Number: 225-381-7271

Sender's Name: Heather D. Howell/asr

Re: Late Fee Assessment for 11-3-20 Election;

Date: _____ **Local:** _____ **Long Distance:** _____

Number of Pages Transmitted: 14 (including cover sheet)

HARD COPY TO FOLLOW BY MAIL ☒ **YES** ☐ **NO**

Time Submitted: 10:45 **AM/PM** CST **Time Started:** _____ **AM/PM** CST

Note:

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The information contained in this facsimile message is Attorney Privileged and Confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named as recipient. If the reader is not the intended recipient, be hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us at the address indicated above via United States Postal Service.



Unknown @Port 9100

04/05/2021 11:36 AM

Start Page

Xerox® VersaLink™ B405DN Multifunction Printer

4/1/2021

Gmail - Fw: Candidate report for heather damitio howell



heather howell <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

Fw: Candidate report for heather damitio howell

2 messages

heather damitio <hdamitio@yahoo.com>

To: "Heather (tangi Fair) Damitio-Howell" <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 31, 2021 at 4:36 PM

RE: Heather Damitio Howell

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Received 11:31:55 2021-04-05

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04/05/2021 11:25 AM

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4/1/2021

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Fax Received 10:49:37 2021-04-05

Heather Damitio Howell
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Amite, LA 70422

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Fax Number: 225-381-7271

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Unknown @Port 9100

04/05/2021 10:43 AM

Start Page

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04/05/2021 09:59 9857470445

WEDIG LAW OFFICE

PAGE 02/14

4/1/2021

Gmail Fw: Candidate report for heather damitio howell

M Gmail

heather howell <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

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To: "Heather (tangi Fair) Damitio-Howell" <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 31, 2021 at 4:36 PM

Fax Received 10:55:48 2021-04-05

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To: "Heather (tangi Fair) Damitio-Howell" <hdamitio2019@gmail.com>

*Check for
if urgent
report needed*

21 at 4:36 PM

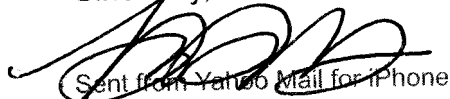
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Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

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Candidate for district 5 city Council Amite Louisiana

Thank you,
Heather Howell
985-687-7325



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.la.gov

March 1, 2021

Ms. Heather Damitio Howell
703 Courtney Dr.
Amite, LA 70422-2048

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70200640000079865000

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the November 3, 2020 Election
10-G Campaign Finance Disclosure Report

Dear Ms. Howell:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$1,000 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P.O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

Also, in addition to payment of the late fee, you are required to file your 10-G campaign finance disclosure report within 20 days of receipt of the enclosed order. If you do not file the report, this matter will be referred to the Ethics Board for further action pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1505.4(A)(4), which allows for an assessment of an additional \$10,000 penalty after a hearing before the Ethics Adjudicatory Board.

With respect to the late fee assessed, you have 20 days from receipt of this letter to pay the late fee or to dispute the assessment by electing to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your **request for a waiver** to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may **appeal the assessment** directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel of administrative law judges. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you do not **pay or dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
acting in its capacity as the
SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In Re: Heather Damitio Howell / November 3, 2020 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Heather Damitio Howell, in her capacity as a candidate for Council Member, District 5, Town of Amite City in the November 3, 2020 election was an any level candidate and required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

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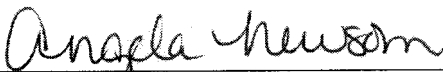
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ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$1,000 is assessed against Heather Damitio Howell for failure to timely file the 10-G campaign finance disclosure report.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Heather Damitio Howell file a 10-G campaign finance disclosure report for the November 3, 2020 election, within 20 days of receipt of this order.

ORDER signed on the 1st day of March 2021 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



Angela Newsom, Director
Campaign Finance & Lobbying Division

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TIME : 04/03/2021 18:00
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#409	11/17	15:37	18005449021	00	00	BUSY	TX
#410	11/20	15:50	18005449021---1800544902	00	00	BUSY	TX
#411	12/09	19:10	19857487778	00	00	BUSY	TX
#414	12/11	10:42	18883130299	00	00	BUSY	TX
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Harold D. Howell
63125 Big Creek Road
Orville LA 70422

At. Boarding Office
P.O. Box 4368
Boston MA 02114-7821

7376



160